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London, June 20.

Abstract of an Act made in the Ninth Year of Her Majesty's Reign, Intituled, An Act for the better preventing excessive and deceitful Gaming.

ENacted, That from and after the First Day of May, 1711, all Notes, Bills, Bonds, Judgments, Mortgages, &c. given for Mony or other valuable thing won by Gaming, or Playing at Cards, Dice, Tables, Tennis, Bowls, or other Game, or Games, or by Betting, or for repaying any Mony knowingly lent at the Time and Place of such Play to any Person or Persons so Gaming or Betting, shall be void, any Statute to the contrary notwithstanding. And where such Mortgages, &c. shall be of Lands, &c. or shall incumber or affect the same, such Lands, &c. shall be for the sole Use and Benefit of such Person or Persons as might have, or be entituled to such Lands, &c. in case the Person so incumbring the same had been dead; and all Grants or Conveyances made to hinder such Lands, &c. from coming to such Person or Persons as aforesaid, shall be deemed Fraudulent, and Void to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever.

All Persons that shall lose at any Time, or Sitting, either by Playing or Betting, as aforesaid, in the whole the Sum or Value of Ten Pounds, and shall pay or deliver the same, or any part thereof, such Persons shall be at liberty within three Months then next to Sue for and Recover the same, or any part thereof, from the Winner, with Costs, &c. In which Actions it shall be sufficient for the Plaintiff to alledge, That the Defendant is Indebted to the Plaintiff, or received for his Use, the Mony so Lost and Paid, without setting forth the special Matter. And in case the Plaintiff shall not within the time aforesaid Sue for the same, it shall be Lawful for any Person or Persons to Sue for and Recover the same, and treble the Value thereof, with Costs of Suits against the Winner or Winners; the one Moiety thereof to the Person suing, and the other to the Poor, &c.

For the better Discovery of the Monies so won, all Persons, who by Vertue of this Act are liable to be Sued for the same, shall be obliged to answer upon Oath such Bill or Bills as shall be preferred against them in that behalf.

The Person or Persons who shall so discover and repay the same, shall be discharged from any further Punishment which he or they might have incurr'd; any former Statute, &c. to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

Further enacted, that if any Person or Persons shall by Fraud, &c. in playing at any the Games aforesaid, or in or by bearing part in the Stakes, &c. or by betting on the sides of such as shall play as aforesaid, win to himself or others, in Mony or other valuable thing, of any one or more Persons, at one time or sitting, above the Sum or Value of 10 *l.* such Person so Convicted upon Indictment or Information, shall forfeit five times the value, and be deem'd infamous, and suffer Corporal Punishment as in cases of wilful Perjury: the Penalty to be recover'd by such Person as shall sue for the same by such Action as aforesaid.

Any two or more of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace in any County, City or Liberty, may cause to come or be brought before them every Person or Persons within their respective Limits, whom they shall have just cause to suspect have no visible Estate, &c. to maintain themselves by, but do for the most part support themselves by Gaming; and in case it does so appear, then the said Justices shall require sufficient Securities for their good Behaviour for the space of twelve Months, and in default of such Security commit 'em to the common Goal, there to remain 'till such Security be found.

If such Person or Persons shall, during the time of their being so bound to their good Behaviour, at any one time or sitting Play or Bett for any Sum, &c. exceeding in the whole the Sum or Value of 20 *s* such Playing shall be deem'd a breach of his or their Behaviour, and a forfeiture of the Recognizance.

In case any Person or Persons shall Assault and Beat, or Challenge any other Person or Persons on account of Mony won by Gaming or Betting, such Person or Persons being Convicted thereof, shall forfeit to her Majesty all his Goods, Chattels and Personal Estate, and suffer Imprisonment during the Term of two Years.

This Act shall not extend to hinder any Playing in her Majesty's Palaces of St. James's or Whitehall during her Majesty's actual Residence at either of the same, or any other Royal Palace were her Majesty shall be resident, so as such Playing be not in any House, Lodging, &c. the Freehold or Inheritance whereof is out of the Crown, &c. and so as such Playing be for ready Mony only.

St. James's, June 20. This Evening Prince Kurakin, Minister and Plenipotentiary from the Czar of Muscovy, being recall'd, had his Audience of Leave of Her Majesty, to which he was Introduced by his Grace the Duke of Queensberry, Principal Secretary of State, and Conducted by John Inglis, Esq; Assistant-Master of the Ceremonies.

Vienna, June 6. *N. S.* On the 4th Instant the Count de Platen, Privy-Counsellor to the Elector of Hanover, arrived here, and Yesterday he made his Compliments of Condolance in his Electoral Highness's Name on the Death of the late Emperor. The Count de Provana is likewise arrived here on the same Account from the Duke of Savoy; and Monsieur Mellarede is on his Departure from hence, being sent with some Instructions from his Royal Highness to several other Courts in the Empire. The Great Master of the Teutonick Order, Brother to the Empress Regent, is speedily expected here from Breslaw, and will proceed from hence to Francfort, in order to be present at the approaching Election of an Emperor. On Tuesday last the Cardinal of Saxe-Zeits set out for Presbourg.